

CLAIMS

I claim:

1 1. A wrench with a wrench stop affixed thereto, comprising:
2 an elongated shank having at least one gripping end having
3 opposing sides, the gripping end being adapted for gripping a
4 fastener, the shank being turned in order to apply torque for
5 tightening and loosening the fastener; and

6 a rigid circular plate attached to one of the opposing sides
7 of the gripping end in order to prevent the gripping end from
8 slipping past the fastener, the plate having a hole defined
9 through the center of the plate adapted for extending around a
10 shank of a bolt or stud.

1 2. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein the gripping end comprises a U-shaped pair of jaws
3 defining an open end wrench, said circular plate being attached
4 to both jaws across the open end of the wrench, the diameter of
5 the hole defined in the center of said plate being less than the
6 width of the U-shaped opening defined by said jaws, whereby said
7 jaws are prevented from sliding off lands defined on said
8 fastener.

1 3. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein the gripping end comprises a closed loop having internal
3 gripping teeth defining a box end wrench, said circular plate
4 being attached across the loop, the diameter of the hole defined
5 in the center of said plate being less than the diameter of the

6 loop, the circular plate and the loop being coaxially aligned,
7 whereby the box end is prevented from sliding off said fastener.

1 4. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein the gripping end comprises a closed loop having a
3 ratcheting gear with internal gripping teeth defining a
4 ratcheting box end wrench, said circular plate being attached
5 across the loop, the diameter of the hole defined in the center
6 of said plate being less than the diameter of the loop, the
7 circular plate and the loop being coaxially aligned, whereby the
8 ratcheting box end is prevented from sliding off said fastener.

1 5. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is made from metal.

1 6. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is made from plastic.

1 7. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is magnetized.

1 8. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is forged in one piece with the
3 gripping end.

1 9. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is cast in one piece with the
3 gripping end.

1 10. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is forged in one piece with the
3 gripping end.

1 11. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is welded to the gripping end.

1 12. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate is attached to the gripping end by
3 epoxy.

1 13. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one gripping end comprises a first gripping
3 end having a U-shaped pair of jaws defining an open end and a
4 second gripping end having a closed loop with internal gripping
5 teeth defining a box end, whereby said shank defined a
6 combination wrench, said rigid circular plate comprising a first
7 circular plate attached to said first end and a second circular
8 plate attached to said second end.

1 14. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate has a serrated edge.

1 15. The wrench with a wrench stop according claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate has a smooth edge.

1 16. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,
2 wherein said circular plate has a thickness between about one-
3 sixteenth and one-quarter inches.

1 17. A wrench stop, comprising a circular plate having a
2 hole defined therein, the plate being adapted for attachment
3 across a gripping end of a wrench, the hole being adapted for
4 extending around a shank of a bolt or stud in order to prevent
5 the wrench from disengaging from the bolt or stud.

1 18. The wrench stop according to claim 17, wherein the
wrench stop is permanently attached to the wrench.

1 19. The wrench stop according to claim 17, further
2 comprising an annular magnet permanently affixed to the circular
3 plate, the magnet defining a hole aligned with the hole in said
4 circular plate, said circular plate having a serrated periphery
5 for ease in grasping the wrench stop, whereby the wrench stop is
6 adapted for attachment to the gripping end of the wrench by
7 magnetic attraction.

1 20. The wrench stop according to claim 19, further
2 comprising a toothed ring attached to said annular magnet, the
3 toothed ring having a diameter smaller than said annular magnet,
4 the toothed ring being adapted for engaging internal teeth in a
5 box end wrench in order to prevent rotation of the wrench stop
6 with the gripping end of the wrench.